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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **U-SYSTEMS, INC.** [US/US]; 110 Rose Orchard Way, San Jose, CA 95134 (US).

(72) Inventors: **YU, Zengpin**; 3434 Waverley Street, Palo Alto, CA 94306 (US). **ZHAO, Danhua**; 276 Woodruf Way, Milpitas, CA 95035 (US). **NEFF, Thomas, P.**; 4957 Farnham Drive, Newark, CA 94560 (US). **ZHANG, Wei**; 2902 Montair Way, Union City, CA 94587 (US). **WANG, Shih-Ping**; 409 Becker Lane, Los Altos, CA 94022 (US).

(74) Agents: **TENG, Paul et al.**; Cooper & Dunham LLP, 1185 Avenue of the America, New York, NY 10036 (US).

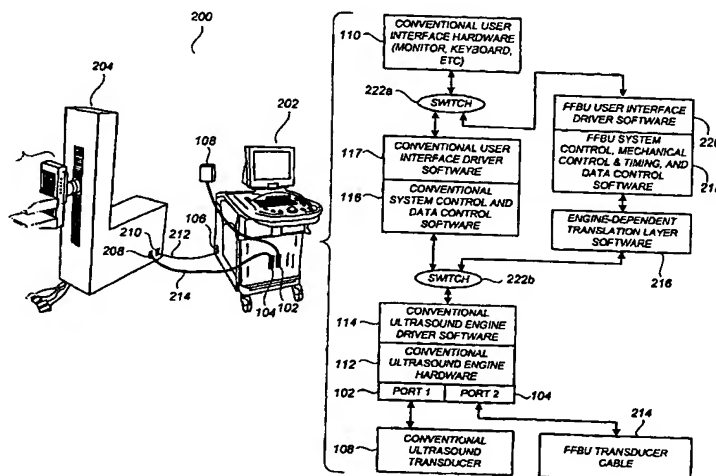
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(54) Title: **FULL-FIELD BREAST ULTRASOUND SYSTEM AND ARCHITECTURE**



(57) Abstract: A modular, flexible architecture for offering full-field breast ultrasound (FFBU) functionality and general-purpose ultrasound functionality in a single system is described. A conventional, general-purpose ultrasound system (202) is modified with an FFBU toolkit to create a dual-capability ultrasound system (200), the dual-capability ultrasound system (200) being able to accommodate both general-purpose ultrasound functionality and FFBU functionality, using a single ultrasound engine (112). Among other advantages, real-world clinical environments may enjoy cost savings for initial system procurement, space savings on clinic floors, easier and less expensive system upgrades, and the ability to use a single system and user interface for both FFBU screening and for follow-up diagnosis, biopsy, etc. Among other advantages from an ultrasound manufacturer's perspective are the ability to quickly and/or more easily come to market with an FFBU-related offering by modifying their existing general-purpose ultrasound systems (202) with FFBU toolkits to quickly create dual-capability ultrasound systems (200).



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